

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 1: EXPRESSING THE HISTORICAL, IDEOLOGICAL AND VISUAL IDENTITY OF THE PARTY CLEARLY IN THE CONSTITUTION				
Background	The identity of the party and what the Party stands for ideologically is not obvious in the constitution.			
Current situation	Ideological identity of the Party is not clearly defined, it is implied.			
Challenge to be addressed	To provide for a clear historical, ideological and visual identity of COPE			
Proposal 1	<p>TO Have specific sections in the constitution covering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The NAME and its historic origins – being the Congress of the People in Kliptown, 1955; 2. The different aspect of the CHARACTER of the party, including its social-democratic ideology and being a modern post-liberation party; 3. The VISION that the party has for the country 4. The VALUES of the party which underpin the code of conduct of members, and Freedom, Equality and Solidarity being the core values of social-democrats 5. The SYMBOLS of the party, including the logo (with the Red colour at the top in alignment with the national flag and the PREDOMINANT COLOUR of the party being YELLOW. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT ABOVE PROPOSAL 1	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Proposal 2	To change the logo of the party and the predominant colour of the party to be green.			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT ABOVE PROPOSAL 2	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 2: INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PARTY BY RECOGNISING ELECTRONIC MEETINGS OR CONSULTATIONS				
Background	There is a need to increase the productivity of the party and shorten the time within which decisions are made.			
Current situation	The Constitution only provides for meetings of the Party that are held in a physical space. It is silent on the use of electronic means for meetings.			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quick consultation is difficult, especially when there is an urgent matter to consider 2. To enable the reduction of costs if a meeting can be held fruitfully electronically 3. Save time that would have been spent travelling 4. Enable small meetings such as EXCOs to be held more regularly thus speeding up decision making 			
Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. COPE should progressively (over time) use electronic means to hold some of its meetings across all spheres of the Party. 2. The use of teleconferencing and other electronic technologies will enable the Party to hold more, especially small and brief, meetings. 3. Some members can join a physical meeting electronically and form part of the quorum 4. Recognising electronic means to hold some meetings the Constitution will protect the Party. 5. Regulations would be developed for these meetings to facilitate their smooth running. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 3: ELECTRONIC PLATFORMS FOR CONSULTATION AND EXCHANGE				
Background	In today's world electronic means and social media platforms are increasingly being used to champion ones cause, to be in touch with followers or to conduct consultations			
Current situation	The Party constitution does not provide for free consultation or communication amongst party members who are not in the same physical space robbing the party of the advantages that social media and other modes of electronic communication and networking can bring			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members of the party feel the need to consult or just interact with each other using social media and other electronic platforms. 2. Several COPE groups have been formed and since their conduct is unregulated it makes it easy to bring the party into disrepute, to infiltrate the party and to abuse these platforms using the name of the party. 			
Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a provision be made in the constitution that enables the free but regulated use of social media and other electronic networking media by party structures to exchange views on party matters, other political or general issues or just to bond to enhance the team spirit of party members 2. The provision should enable and encourage formal consultations, inter-structure communication as well as communication with supporters or followers of the party and the general public. 3. The provision must then have regulations to govern such use of social media 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 4: ELECTRONIC VOTING IN THE PARTY				
Background	The use of electronic means to enhance the efficiency of work in general is now evident in walks of life. Electronic voting in particular saves time, is more difficult to manipulate results and is a growing global trend even for elections.			
Current situation	The constitution does not provide for electronic voting			
Challenge to be addressed	Voting manually wastes a lot of time and is easier to manipulate			
Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the party, in its meetings and congresses across all spheres, should, taking into account the financial implications, progressively use electronic means to vote on matters. 2. This is in addition to that vote being secret. 3. This provision should be progressively be implemented across all structures of the party starting at national. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 5: ELECTION OF LEADERSHIP BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARTY				
Background	Traditionally in political parties the leadership is elected by delegates who are at Congress.			
Current situation	Currently, since the First National Congress of the Party, all leaders, except for the president, are elected by delegates at the Congress. The Preside shall be elected by all members of the Party			
Challenge to be addressed	<p>Providing the right to elect leadership only to Congress delegates has many challenges some of which are that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) There can be a conflict of interests between the right to a secret ballot vote of a delegate and the so called 'mandate' from the branches of the party when it comes to elections. b) With corruption and fraud being a major problem in our country and society, it is not uncommon for delegates to be 'bought' by candidates. It is not as easy to buy a whole membership c) If the election is conducted manually on the day of elections, as members of the party assemble at COPE VOTING STATIONS which would be, say in the different schools or other facilities where we have municipality and regional structures, that will give the party additional publicity as no one has ever done that in SA. d) If the voting is electronic it will generate a new wave in the country for two things, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. all members of the party will voting, which is new, b. using electronic voting, which is good given that some countries are already using electronic voting in their general elections 			
Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Constitution to Provide that The party must gradually introduce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Voting by all members of the party by all members in a particular sphere for leaders of the party in that sphere, even if it is manually- eg all members vote for national leaders and all members in a province vote for their provincial leaders b. Voting using electronic means at the earliest opportunity for all spheres of the party, taking into account financial resources 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 6: MAKING THE LEADERSHIP STRUCTURES MORE REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA				
Background	Compliance with party policies on the representation of women is a global challenge because in many cases there are no procedures that enable the balance between such compliance and the exercise in democracy. Countries such as Canada which have the issue of equal representation of English and French, in addition to the equal representation of men and women have interesting procedures in their constitutions to ensure compliance with their policies			
Current situation	There is a policy but no procedures to ensure compliance with policy so the leadership structures do not comply with party policy eg all provincial leaders in the CNC are male.			
Challenge to be addressed	To make the party leadership structures more representative of South African society whose population of both female and young people constitutes more than 50% of the population To make a deliberate effort of ensuring that women and young people are more involved in leadership tasks and not limiting the exercise of such leadership to their constituencies.			
Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The party should re-confirm it policy of that at least 50% of all leadership structures and party public representatives across all spheres of the party are women; 2. The party should increase the representation of young people such that at least 40% of leaders and party public representatives across all spheres of the party structures are under the such that at least 40% of all leaders and public representatives are under age of 40 at the time of election 3. In the procedures for election of leadership and for the selection of the party's public representative the language should be such that it guarantees compliance with the above policies 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 7: REVIEWING CHAPTER STRUCTURES TO BE MORE FOCUSED AND RESPONSIVE				
Background	The Chapters of the party have been a challenge to establish and coordinate.			
Current situation	The constitution envisages the Chapters to be set up with an infrastructure similar to that of the Party.			
Challenge to be addressed	<p>The Chapters spend a lot of time consumed by administrative issues of establishing structures and are therefore left with little time to focus on the policy issues of their constituencies</p> <p>Chapters also tend to use their organisational structure for ascending to leadership</p> <p>The party leaders sometimes tend to use chapters as voting blocs thus creating division</p>			
Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There should only be two chapters <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. the Congress Youth Movement and b. Congress Women's Movement, the others should be sectors or forums 2. The Chapters of the Party should be policy oriented and not have constitutional organisational identity such as branches, regions etc 3. All youth under 35 will automatically be members of the congress youth movement and all females members of the congress women's movement 4. Each sphere of the party will only have five leaders of that sphere per chapter (youth and women) eg there will only be 5 national youth movement leaders or women's movement leaders, five leaders per province, etc. 5. All five leaders of each chapter will form part of the leadership structure of the respective sphere so the five national women's chapter leaders will be part of the Congress National Committee and the same for the youth. 6. The five chapter leaders shall be elected at the same time as the other leaders of the party in that sphere 7. The chapters shall have their own leadership structures as shown in ANNEX A: STRUCTURES OF THE PARTY 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 8: INTRODUCTION OF SECTROS OF THE PARTY

Background	There is a need to create platforms for different sectors of society to interact with the party and influence its direction			
Current situation	The Constitution provides for Chapters which include students and Business and Professionals			
Challenge to be addressed	The fact that these are sectors that are not necessarily structured according to VDs as would be the case with youth and women and some of them are of a temporary nature, the party will have to look at how best to accommodate these and perhaps other sectors of society in a manner that is practical			
Proposal 1	The constitution should make provision for the establishment and recognition of a student's movement and other sectors such as professionals, to be structured in a manner agreed to by the CNC which is practical for those structures to function optimally and be effective			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 9: STRUCTURES OF THE PARTY OUTSIDE SOUTH AFRICA

Background	With the possibility of South African living abroad being able to vote it is important to provide a platform for those South Africans who live outside the country, and so wish, to engage in the political life of the country			
Current situation	The constitution does not provide for membership of the party for someone outside the country as there are also no such structures			
Challenge to be addressed	There is a need to have structure outside the country to enable party members to engage in the political life of the country through COPE			
Proposal 1	That a provision be made in the constitution for the establishment of party structures outside the country			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 10: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE EXCO CLARIFYING EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITY				
Background	The key task of a political party is to win elections and govern. Party structures should therefore be such that they make the transition to government easier			
Current situation	The party is modelled along socialist tradition and movements where one party state governments are the norm as opposed to a political party whose primary mission is to govern in a multi-party democracy			
Challenge to be addressed	Making the party more practically oriented towards it mission of governing			
Proposal 1 on EXCO	<p>The Exco to be composes as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leader of the party (full-time and in parliament), head of the Party 2. Chairperson and Deputy President-(full-time at party head office) 3. Secretary for Membership and organizational Development 4. Secretary for Finance and Projects 5. Secretary for Information, Communication and Advocacy 6. Secretary for Elections and Electoral Education and Voter Mobilisation 7. Secretary for Political education <p>a) To cascade this model across to spheres of the Party with the other structures having an Exco of five. b) Exco members to preferably be full-time taking into account party resources, some in parliament c) The EXCO is responsible for the day to day running of the Party assisted by a professional Director General, see ISSUE: STAFF OF THE PARTY</p>			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT PROPOSAL 1 above	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Proposal 2	The Exco stays as in the Constitution with General Secretary and Deputy being full-time			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT PROPOSAL 2 above	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				



ISSUE 11: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE NOBs TO POLICY COMMITTEE CLARIFYING THE POLITICAL AND POLICY-MAKING RESPONSIBILITY				
Background	There is a need to enhance the policy-making capacity of the party and to engage the party in political and policy discussions on an on-going basis			
Current situation	Policies are not discussed at the required pace and not enough interaction exists between the party structures and the party's public representatives. The oversight of the Deputies responsible for the different clusters is not tight enough			
Challenge to be addressed	Ensure a regular discussion of policy positions on various matters including and especially those being debated in Parliament			
Proposal	<p>To re-name the National Office Bearers (NOBs) to National Policy Committee (NPC with the following members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deputy for Economic Cluster 2. Deputy for Social Cluster 3. Deputy for Administration and Governance Cluster 4. Deputy for Safety and Security Cluster 5. Deputy for International Relations Cluster 6. Deputy for Land and Agriculture Cluster 7. The Exco members <p>a) To cascade this model across to spheres of the Party with the other structures having an Policy Committee of ten members in line with the provincial and local government portfolios as appropriate.</p> <p>b) The Policy Committees are responsible for the policy development work of the Party</p>			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				



ISSUE 12: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE COMPOSITION OF DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURES THE CONGRESS NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND RELATED STRUCTURES CLARIFYING AND ENHANCING ITS OVERAL DECISION-MAKING ROLE				
Background	The Congress National Committee is the highest decision-making structure in between Congresses			
Current situation	The CNC is made up of the Exco, NOBs, provincial Chairpersons and Secretaries, 25 additional members with no specific responsibilities and Chairpersons and Secretaries of Chapters			
Challenge to be addressed	a) The CNC tends to be general in its work so there is a need to ensure that it works in a more structured manner, that is having a clear separation of organisational, policy and political matters b) The CNC has poor representation of women and youth			
Proposal 1	That the composition of the CNC be <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exco members (50% of whom are female and 40% of whom are under 40yrs) 2. National Policy Committee (50% of whom are female and 40% of whom are under 40yrs) 3. Provincial Leaders and Chairpersons (Leaders and chairpersons one of whom is female) 4. Five Congress Youth National Leaders (50% of whom are women) 5. Five Congress women national leaders (40% of whom are under 40years old) 6. Twelve additional members (50% of whom are female and 40% of whom are under 40yrs) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) All of the above, except provincial leaders) are elected at the same time and the leaders of the CYM and CWM are elected only by the respective constituencies but at the same time as other leaders during Congress (but not only by Congress delegates if the new provision on electing leaders is in place) b) The above applies to the other structures of the Party as appropriate. SEE ANNEX : ON STRUCTURES 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 13: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE VOTING DISTRICT (VD) TO A COORDINATING UNITY				
Background	The Voting District (VD) is the most basic unit in our electoral syste.			
Current situation	The VD is the basic unit or Branch of the Party			
Challenge to be addressed	There have been many challenges raised although there were positive elements as well.			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The VD should be only a coordinating unit in the Party with ten members who will be responsible for following the issues lined to the ten government portfolios in local government where the VD is found 2. There should also be another member, making it eleven coordinators) whose task is to coordinate the ten VD portfolio co-ordinators 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 14: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: MAKING THE WARD THE BASIC UNIT OF THE PARTY				
Background	The ward is the first electable structure in governance with Ward Councillors			
Current situation	The Ward is not recognised as a structure in the party constitution			
Challenge to be addressed	The absence of a ward as a structure makes organisation at this sphere difficult and creates a structural vacuum when there are local government elections			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT THE WARD SHOULD BE THE BASIC STRUCTURE OF THE PARTY, previously known as a branch, and have the following structures 2. THE WARD EXCO made up of five members 3. THE WARD POLICY COMMITTEE (WPC) made up of ten Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the ten portfolios in the local municipality MMCs (or zone in the case of a Metro Municipality) plus the EXCO 4. THE CONGRESS WARD COMMITTEE comprising the Exco, WPC, one VD coordinator from each of the VDs in the Ward and five members each from the Youth Ward Committee and Women's Ward Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				



ISSUE 15: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE REGIONS TO BE MUNICIPALITY STRUCTURES THE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY				
Background	A modern party should be structured and function in a manner that provides for a seamless, relationship with or, transition to government.			
Current situation	The leadership structures are referred to in terms that are too general and there is no provision for a local municipality structure as such			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that party structures are aligned to structures of governance 2. Members of the leadership structures to have specific tasks to perform and be accountable for. 3. Address poor on representation of women and youth 4. The constitution to provide a procedure that ensures that the compliance with the policy of the party on the representation of women and youth in leadership structures in the party and legislatures is guaranteed 			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THERE SHOULD LOCAL MUNICIPALITY structure of the party to conduct the work of the party related to that sphere of governance, it is therefore proposed that there should be; 2. THE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (LM) EXCO made up of five members 3. THE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY (LM) POLICY COMMITTEE (LMPC) made up of ten Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the ten portfolios in the local municipality MMCs (or zone in the case of a Metro Municipality) plus the LM EXCO 4. THE CONGRESS LOCAL MUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE (CLMC) comprising the Exco, LMPC, one person each from each of the Ward Committees in the Local Municipality and five members each from the Youth LM Committee and Women's LM Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 16: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE REGIONS TO BE MUNICIPALITY STRUCTURES THE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY				
Background	A modern party should be structured and function in a manner that provides for a seamless, relationship with or, transition to government.			
Current situation	The leadership structures are referred to in terms that are too general and there is no provision for a district municipality structure as such			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that party structures are aligned to structures of governance 2. Members of the leadership structures to have specific tasks to perform and be accountable for. 3. Address poor on representation of women and youth 4. The constitution to provide a procedure that ensures that the compliance with the policy of the party on the representation of women and youth in leadership structures in the party and legislatures is guaranteed 			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THERE SHOULD BE A DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY structure of the party to conduct the work of the party related to that sphere of governance, it is proposed that there should be 2. THE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY (DM) EXCO made up of five members 3. THE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY (DM) POLICY COMMITTEE (DMPC) made up of ten Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the ten portfolios in the district municipality MMCs (or zone in the case of a Metro Municipality) plus the DM EXCO 4. THE CONGRESS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE (CDMC) comprising the Exco, DMPC, one person each from each of the Local Municipal Committees in the District Municipality and five members each from the Youth DM Committee and Women's DM Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 17: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE REGIONS TO BE MUNICIPALITY STRUCTURES THE REGION AS A THE METRO MUNICIPALITY SUB-STRUCTURE				
Background	A modern party should be structured and function in a manner that provides for a seamless, relations ship with or, transition to government.			
Current situation	There is no clear provision for regions as administration structures of the Metro in the constitution. As Metros are large there is a need to have sub-structures of the party to cater for the different Administrative Regions in the Metros.			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The introduction of Regions as sub-structure of the metros 2. Members of the regional leadership structures to have specific tasks to perform and be accountable for in their regions 3. To address the poor representation of women and youth In the regional structures 4. The constitution does not provide a procedure that ensures that the compliance with the policy of the party on the representation of women and youth in leadership structures in the party and legislatures is guaranteed. 			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THERE SHOULD BE A METRO REGIONAL structure of the party to conduct the work of the party related to that sphere of governance, it is proposed that there should be 2. THE Regional EXCO (R-EXCO)made up of five members 3. THE REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (RPC) made up of ten Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the ten portfolios in the metro municipality MMCs plus the R-EXCO 4. THE CONGRESS REGIONAL COMMITTEE (CRC) comprising the R-Exco, , one person each from each of the Ward Committees in the Region and five members each from the Youth Regional-Committee and Women's Regional- Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				



ISSUE 18: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: CHANGING THE REGIONS TO BE MUNICIPALITY STRUCTURES THE METRO MUNICIPALITY				
Background	A modern party should be structured and function in a manner that provides for a seamless, relationship with or, transition to government.			
Current situation	The leadership structures are referred to in terms that are too general and there is no provision for a metro municipality structure as such			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that party structures are aligned to structures of governance 2. Members of the leadership structures to have specific tasks to perform and be accountable for. 3. Address poor on representation of women and youth 4. The constitution to provide a procedure that ensures that the compliance with the policy of the party on the representation of women and youth in leadership structures in the party and legislatures is guaranteed 			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THERE SHOULD BE A METRO MUNICIPALITY structure of the party to conduct the work of the party related to that sphere of governance, it is proposed that there should be 2. THE METRO MUNICIPALITY (MM) EXCO made up of five members 3. THE METRO MUNICIPALITY (MM) POLICY COMMITTEE (DMPC) made up of ten Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the ten portfolios in the metro municipality MMCs (or zone in the case of a Metro Municipality) plus the DM EXCO 4. THE CONGRESS METRO MUNICIPALITY COMMITTEE (CMMC) comprising the Exco, MMPC, one person each from each of the Ward Committees in the Metro and five members each from the Youth MM Committee and Women's MM Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				



ISSUE 19: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: THE PROVINCE				
Background	A modern party should be structured and function in a manner that provides for a seamless, relationship with or, transition to government.			
Current situation	The leadership structures are referred to in terms that are too general			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CPC is large and general 2. Members of the leadership structures do not have specific tasks to perform and be accountable for. 3. There is poor representation of women and youth <p>The constitution does not provide a procedure that ensures that the compliance with the policy of the party on the representation of women and youth in leadership structures in the party and legislatures is guaranteed</p>			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THERE SHOULD BE AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROVINCIAL structure of the party to enable the structure to conduct the work of the party related to the provincial sphere of governance better, it is proposed that there should be 2. THE PROVINCIAL P-EXCO made up of five members 3. THE PROVINCIAL POLICY COMMITTEE (PPC) made up of ten Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the ten portfolios in the provincial government- MECs plus the P- EXCO 4. THE CONGRESS PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE (CPC) comprising the P-Exco, PPC, one person each from each of the District Municipality or Metro Municipality Committees in the Province, and five members each from the Youth Provincial Committee and Women's Provincial Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 20: ALIGNING PARTY STRUCTURES TO STRUCTURES OF GOVERNANCE: NATIONAL				
Background	A modern party should be structured and function in a manner that provides for a seamless, relations ship with or, transition to government.			
Current situation	The leadership structures are referred to in terms that are too general			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CNC is large and general 2. Members of the leadership structures do not have specific tasks to perform and be accountable for. 3. There is poor on representation of women and youth 4. The constitution does not provide a procedure that ensures that the compliance with the policy of the party on the representation of women and youth in leadership structures in the party and legislatures is guaranteed 			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THERE SHOULD BE AN AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL structure of the party to enable the structure to conduct the work of the party related to the national sphere of governance better, it is therefore proposed that there should be 2. THE CONGRESS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXCO made up of seven members to deal with the day to day running of the Party 3. THE NATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (NPC) made up of six Deputies whose tasks shall be aligned to the six policy clusters in which portfolios are grouped plus the EXCO to deal with the policy development tasks of the party 4. THE CONGRESS NATIONAL COMMITTEE (CNC) comprising the Exco, NPC, Two persons from each of the Provinces, six additional members who shall be assigned tasks linked to the clusters and five members each from the Youth National Committee and Women's National Committee 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				



ISSUE 21: THE CONGRESS LEADESHIP SUMMIT				
Background	<p>There are many political developments in the world and parties have to develop or mould their policies taking into account these developments.</p> <p>The political developments are often discussed within the context of the ideological groupings that parties find themselves in.</p> <p>As with other ideologies, social democracy has many shades and it is important for the Congress of the People to regularly examine its own brand of social-democracy and to discuss the issues confronting the world from as seen by other social-democrats.</p>			
Current situation	<p>There is no provision in the constitution for a meeting of leaders of the Party from all three spheres of governance-national, provincial and local.</p>			
Challenge to be addressed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To address the current lack of platform for a political discussion and exchange of party leaders in the three spheres of the structures of the Party. 2. To create a strong ideological bond among the leaders of the party and between them and leaders of other social-democratic or similar parties in Africa and other parts of the world. 3. To create a solid basis and point of departure for the development of party policies and therefore creating a strong link between the ideology and policies of the Party. 			
Proposal 1	<p>It is proposed that there should be a Congress Leadership Summit (CLS)–which is an extended CNC and meets at least once in between Congresses of the Party</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CLS is made up of CNC plus the Leader and Chairperson of every Metro and District, local Municipality Committee of the Party. 2. The main tasks of the Congress Leadership Summit- is a strategic session to look at various strategic matters of our world, continent, country and party as well as the ideology of social democracy 3. The Congress Leadership Summit should, among others receive a “State of South Africa's democracy address” by a leader of the party or invited guest. 4. The party may invite other social-democratic and similar parties and persons as guest speakers or delegates to The Summit. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 22: THE PARTY MACHINERY: FULL TIME OFFICE BEARERS OF THE PARTY				
Background	The background of liberation struggle has created conditions where first people were all volunteers and then later all volunteers expected to be full-time employees of the Party. This has created challenges on many fronts. The expectation of being employed and the expectation from the one on the job were often at loggerheads.			
Current situation	The constitution is silent on who should be full-time officials of the party nor who should be public representatives of the party.			
Challenge to be addressed	There is a need to provide clarity on who are officials who serve the party on a full-time basis as well as indicating what that implies and with respect to the remuneration of those individuals in order to provide clarity for both the party and the individuals concerned			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Leader of the Party at national, provincial, Municipal and Ward spheres of the party shall be the first persons on the Party list to get into Parliament, Legislatures or Councils as public representatives of the Party 2. The Chairperson of the Party at the different spheres of the Party shall be officials who serve the party in a full-time capacity and shall be remunerated at the same scale as the leader of the party in the relevant sphere 3. Members of Exco at the different spheres shall serve in a full-time capacity preferably as public representatives of full-time officials of the party who shall be remunerated at the same level as public representatives of the relevant sphere if the CNC confirms that the party will be able to meet such an obligation; 4. Any official of the Party at the different spheres of the Party who is an official serving the party in a full-time capacity as a result of a CNC resolution shall be remunerated at the same scale as the public representatives of the party in the relevant sphere 5. The CNC shall determine the rate and level of implementation of this provision of the constitution based on the needs of the Party, local conditions and the ability of the Party to meet its obligation in this regard, hence a requirement for a CNC resolution. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 23: THE PARTY MACHINERY: PROFESSIONAL STAFF OF THE PARTY, SEPARATION OF POLITICS FROM ADMINISTRATION				
Background	To establish the Chief Accounting Officer of the party responsible for all administrative and operational matters of the party.			
Current situation	There is no mention of staff on the party in the constitution			
Challenge to be addressed	The predominant culture from the liberation struggle era tends to overlap political and administrative tasks. The inability to separate these two creates a situation where politicians interfere in administration and staff overstep their mandate and tend to take on political tasks. This then continues when the party gets into government making the functioning of government difficult			
Proposal 1	<p>It is proposed that a provision should exist in the constitution for a Director General of the Party with the corresponding Provincial, Municipal and Ward Directors of the Party who shall be the Chief Accounting Officers of the party at those spheres and be the overall responsible person for the financial, human resource and administrative operations of the party.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Director General, Provincial, Municipal or Ward Directors shall be the chief support officer to the Chairpersons of and other leaders in the day to day running of the party and the Chief link with the Party structures in the Legislatures and Government 2. The Director General, Provincial, Municipal or Ward Directors shall be ex-officio members of the relevant Exco without the right to vote 3. The remuneration of the Director General and other Directors of the Party shall be determined by the CNC, with the help of professional support from persons or entities experienced in identifying professional staff, taking into account the complexity of the task at hand. 4. The Directors shall report to the relevant Chairpersons of the Party on the day to day functioning of the Party. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 24: THE PARTY IN LEGISLATURE AND/OR GOVERNANCE: THE PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTY				
Background	It is important that all the principles governing a public representative of the party are clear to all members of the party and the public			
Current situation	There is no provision in the constitution			
Challenge to be addressed	Removal of uncertainty about what a public representative of the party may or may not do			
Proposal	Provide for a section on the public representatives of COPE and all matters related to that issue			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 25: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTY LEADERS, LEADRSHIP STRUCTURES AND THE PARTY PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES AND STRUCTURES IN THE LEGISLATURES/ GOVERNMENT				
Background	One of the challenges faced by political parties is the relationship between the party leaders and structures with their corresponding leaders and structures in the legislatures. Some parties stipulate this relationship in their constitutions and support that with detailed procedures.			
Current situation	The constitution has no provision dealing with public representatives			
Challenge to be addressed	To address the challenges posed by the absence of a clear principles and procedures governing the relationship between the party and its structures and members in legislatures.			
Proposal 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is proposed to introduce a provision in the constitution on the principles governing the relationship between the party and the party in the legislatures and/or government. 2. Just like the President, the Leader of the party in the different spheres shall be the main representative of the party in that sphere. 3. The President and the leaders of the party at the different spheres shall be accountable to the Leadership structures of the Party in that sphere. 4. The party caucuses at the different spheres shall be accountable to the party structures in that sphere through a clearly defined process. 5. Members of the legislature at the provincial and municipal spheres shall be ex-officio members of the party structures in the province, municipality or ward in which they are registered as members of the party without the right to vote so that those structures may benefit from their experience, exposure and information. 6. These members as well as those at National Parliament shall be encouraged but not required to attend the meetings of the Congress Provincial, Municipal or Ward Committees as the case may be taking into account their other responsibilities and within reason. 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 26: THE FUNDRAISING ARM, AND FUND, OF THE PARTY				
Background	The question of raising funds for the party is important and needs to be regulated by the Party in some form. Given the possibilities of fraud and corruption that exist it is important both for the Party and the public to know who is raising money on behalf of the Party. Some parties have dedicated fund-raising structure, known to all, which does this task for the Party.			
Current situation	The Party has a Financial Committee but is not easy to make it fully functional and it is not always made up of people who are equipped to deal with finance and fund-raising matters			
Challenge to be addressed	To ensure that there is a dedicated, skilled and experienced team, reporting to the CNC, which brings certainty to the Party and public about who can fundraise for the Party			
Proposal 1	To introduce a provision in the constitution for <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Party Fund which can have sub-funds 2. A Party Fundraising structure, which shall work with the Finance Committee but is not a leadership but professional structure 3. The necessary general rules for the party about matters related to fundraising and the auditing of the fund 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 27: REGULARITY OF CONGRESSES OF THE PARTY				
Background	The aim o			
Current situation	The National Congress is six months before national elections. Provincial Congresses are two and half years before provincial elections and Regional Congresses are every two years and branches elect annually			
Challenge to be addressed	<p>There is no link between the structures of governance and structures of the Party. This creates a problem especially because the structures of governance are supposed to report to Party structures. The current situation creates instability in the party structures while the governance structures stay stable, gain experience and information for five uninterrupted years.</p> <p>The objective of the proposals is to link the terms of party leaders to those of the related governance structures across the board thus creating more stability. This would be particularly good if read with the proposal to link party structure responsibility to their counterpart governance structures as envisaged in proposals on the party structures.</p>			
Proposal 1	National Congresses shall be held once in five years 12-18 months before the provincial and national elections			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT ABOVE PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Proposal 2	Provincial Congresses shall be held once in five years 18-24 months before the provincial and national elections			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT ABOVE PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Proposal 3	Municipal Congresses shall be held once in five years 12-18 months before the local government elections			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT ABOVE PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Proposal 4	Ward Congresses shall be held once in five years before the Municipal Congresses where the Wards are situated			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT ABOVE PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 28: NAMING OF PARTY STRUCTURES				
Background	The naming or special recognition of something is a very emotive issue as the recent debate on old and apartheid statues has demonstrated. When			
Current situation	There is no guidance on the naming of structures in the party			
Challenge to be addressed	The non-existence of guidelines makes the party and its structures vulnerable to making mistakes and creates a situation that may bring tension. In Gauteng for example, one of the regions was named after a late comrade. This is fine if there is no conflict around it but that may not be the case all the time. The principles on naming party structures is aimed to bring stability and uniformity in the naming of anything related to the party such a structure, a project linked to the Party, an award etc			
Proposal 1	It is proposed that the principles for naming of Party structures, offices and projects linked to the party or where the Party has naming rights be set out in the constitution and a separate document on the procedures be developed and adopted by the CNC. In order to minimise confusion all Provinces, Municipality, Regional, Ward and Voting District structures shall bear the name of their corresponding geographic location.			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 29: TASKS OF THE LEADER OF THE PARTY				
Background	The Party Leader is the President of the party and his or her primary task is to win elections and govern the country or be the leader of the opposition			
Current situation	The tasks for the Party leader is not clearly defined in relation to the country			
Challenge to be addressed	To provide clarity in the tasks of Party leader in relation to those of the Party Chairperson of the Party			
Proposal 1	<p>The mains tasks of the Party Leader and President are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To lead the party 2. The primary focus of the work of the Party leader is related to the performance of the public representatives 3. The election of Party Leader is separate from other leaders of the Party and follows a more robust process to be defined by the CNC 4. The party Leader at the different spheres of the party will progressively be elected by all members of the party in that sphere following a CNC –defined process 5. Party Leaders will be the top leaders and top public representatives of the party in the sphere where they operate 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				

ISSUES PAPER FOR DISCUSSION PAPER ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMEMNDMENTS 2015



ISSUE 30: TASKS OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE PARTY				
Background	The Party Chairperson has as their primary task is to build a party machinery that wins elections so as to govern the country. The position of Party Chairperson is new in COPE but it is an important role which needs to be clearly defined			
Current situation	The tasks for the Party chairperson is not clearly defined in relation to the party tasks			
Challenge to be addressed	To provide clarity in the tasks of Party Chairperson in relation to those of the Party Leader			
Proposal	The primary tasks of the Party Chairperson are <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To ensure that the party functions optimally to support the President and other public representatives 2. The primary focus of the work of the Party Chairperson is related to the party structures and machinery 3. The Party Chairperson is elected with other political leaders of the Party 			
Decision (tick one)	SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL	DO NOT SUPPORT IT	NO CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION	ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL
Comments or alternative proposal (write proposal clearly here. Be brief.)				